

Message Text

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SUBJECT: EDITORIAL IN IRISH INDEPENDENT APRIL 14, 1978
FOLLOWING EDITORIAL APPEARED IN IRISH INDEPENDENT
APRIL 14, 1978 UNDER HEADING NO RIGHT TO LEAVE:

THE SOVIETS HAVE WORKED THEMSELVES INTO A FROTH
OVER ARKADY SHEVCHENKO, THE HIGHEST SOVIET OFFICIAL
IN THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT, WHO HAS
DECLARED HIS INTENTION NOT TO RETURN TO HIS
HOMELAND. HE HAS BEEN THE VICTIM OF A U.S. PLOT,
THEY ARE CLAIMING, AND BEHIND IT ALL IS THE C.I.A.
NATURALLY, MOSCOW STILL CARRIED ON THE CHARADE OF
PRETENDING THAT EITHER YOU HAVE BEEN GOT AT BY
ANOTHER COUNTRY IF YOU STATE YOUR INTENTION OF
NOT WANTING TO EITHER STAY IN OR RETURN TO THE
SOVIET UNION - OR YOU ARE MENTALLY ILL.

IT NEVER SEEMS TO OCCUR TO THEM THAT EVERY TIME
THEY DENY A VISA TO A RUSSIAN WHO WANTS TO LEAVE
FOR ANOTHER COUNTRY THEY MAKE FOOLS OF THEMSELVES
IN THE EYES OF THE REST OF THE WORLD.
SHEVCHENKO'S CASE SEEMS TO BE ONE OF WINE, WOMEN
AND SONG AND HE IS WELL ABLE TO DEFEND HIMSELF
IN THE UNITED STATES AGAINST MOSCOW CHARGES.
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE ELDERLY WOMAN IN MOSCOW WHO,
WHEN SHE WAS DENIED FOR THE FOURTH TIME THE RIGHT
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TO AN EXIT VISA SWALLOWED POISON AND IS NOW IN A
SERIOUS CONDITION IN HOSPITAL? OR THE RUSSIAN
WIFE OF AN AMERICAN PROFESSOR WHO HAS BEEN
TRYING FOR FOUR YEARS TO JOIN HER HUSBAND IN
THE U.S.? THESE ARE ONLY TWO INSTANCES AMONG
COUNTLESS CASES WHICH COULD BE PRODUCED OF A
COMPLETE DISREGARD FOR THE TERMS OF THE HELSINKI

PACT.

IT IS A DISREGARD SHARED TO VARYING EXTENTS BY
OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. DR. HUSAK,
THE CZECH BOSS WHO WELCOMED THE RUSSIAN INVADERS
INTO HIS HOMELAND, HAS RECEIVED A UNIVERSALLY
HOSTILE RECEPTION FROM GERMAN NEWSPAPERS DURING
HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO BONN THIS WEEK. THE
REASON - BECAUSE HE STILL RULES HIS COUNTRY WITH
A SEVERE HAND AND SHOWS NO COMPUNCTION ABOUT
IMPRISONING DISSIDENTS AND REFUSING EXIT VISAS.
IT IS EMBARRASSING FOR EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES
WHEN THEIR NATIONALS WANT TO LEAVE THE LOCAL
PARADISE. BUT THEY RUIN THEIR ATTEMPTS AT
IMAGE-BUILDING WHEN THEY REFUSE TO ALLOW SUCH
PEOPLE TO GO WITHOUT FUSS.KRENE

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